

# COVENANT

BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR

# *Annual*

MAGAZINE



*"DOERS OF THE WORD"* JAMES 1:22

2025



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# Editorial Desk

**G**reetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. As we spire down the end of another year, the editorial team is thrilled to bring to you the annual church magazine for the year 2025.

This year has been a challenging year globally, geopolitically, within our nation and even in our state. We live in a time where there is chaos, distability, uncertainty in our society. An era where “the love of many will grow cold”( Matthew 24:12), and where many Christians live a life “ having a form of Godliness but denying its power” ( 2 Timothy 3:5) hovering around us.

We bring to our readers a variety of articles that addresses these challenges as a child of God. We pray that this magazine will serve as a reminder that Jesus Christ and the Word of God alone is the answer and our hope in this challenging times. We hope that through this magazine, we will express our deep gratitude to God for his faithfulness and grace towards Covenant Baptist Church and its members throughout this year.

As we step into a new year, let the Spirit of love, peace and unity be upon each one of us.

All glory to God and wishing you all a happy reading.



# The Gift of Love

**1 John 4:9, "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him".**

I recall the time when I was serving in Kohima District Jail as a counselor back in the early 2004-2005, I happened to meet an inmate named Thomas (name changed for privacy reasons). He was lost and living without hope of any kind, weighed by the burden of his sins. At prison we had a chapel hall where the chaplain would conduct services and preach the Word of God. It was there he happened to hear about Jesus and his sacrifice, that He died for our sins. He was so moved by Jesus's life that in the course of his time there he repented and accepted Jesus as his personal savior and also made the decision to take water baptism. On the day that he was to be baptized I was standing next to him by the baptism pool. I was so moved to see Thomas weeping not out of anger or bitterness but with joy because he had received hope of eternity in Christ. Thomas is no longer a prisoner of his sins but a victor in Christ, a man filled by the Love of God. Friends, our God can make even a stone cold heart melt to his warmth and faithful heart. We need to look to God and not ourselves because when we submit our trust and faith in him, His Love can move, transform and revive us.

The word Love in the verse mentioned is misunderstood in many ways. We are living in a time when people use 'Love' passages from the Bible to misinterpret the meaning to use their needs. From the world's perspective the word Love is limited and conditional.

John was known as the "Apostle of love". When John talks about 'Love' in 1 John 4:9, this love comes from the Greek word Agape Love (selfless, sacrificial, unconditional love, the unmerited Love of God, the favour of God, a Love that even though we don't deserve it God still loves us). God's love is holy, it is the highest form of love and His holiness is expressed in love.

And because God is love, He must

communicate—not only in words but in deeds. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Love never starts with us, it starts with God. The greatest expression of God's love is in the death of His Son at the cross! "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8 nasb). Another commentary says, "Love is not only defined by the sacrifice of Jesus (as stated in 1 John 3:16); it is also defined by the giving of the Father". This shows the love of God. God gave His Son to die, and to die for sinners.

Friends, if we want to love one another more, we need to first understand the Love of God, we need to have a personal experience with Him and it all begins with repentance and confession. Many so-called Christians are celebrating Christmas without Christ in their hearts.

The Birth of Christ took place when the world was in darkness because of our sinful nature. When Jesus the Light of the World came upon us, it was through His ministry, His death on the Cross and His resurrection gave us the assurances of Salvation.

May the Love of God reign

in your heart this

Christmas. Let us

be reminded of

his message,

hope, love

and peace.

Amen!



# THE FIRST CHRISTIAN

**A** Christian heretic is a member of the Christian community who obstinately rejects or fails to understand the revealed truth or core Christian principles and doctrines of faith.

In the book of Acts chapter 8 we learn of a person named Simon.

Acts 8:9-25 (KJV)

*9. But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one.*

*10. To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.*

*11. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.*

*12. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*

*13. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptised, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.*

*14. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:*

*15. Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:*

*16. For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

*17. Then laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.*

*18. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,*

*19. Saying, give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.*

*20. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.*

*21. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.*

*22. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.*

*23. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.*

*24. Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.*

Simon was apparently a well known practitioner of sorcery in Samaria, boasting himself to be a great person. He had bewitched people into believing that he is the great power of God. Many people followed him because of this, but when Philip started proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, many people believed and were baptised.

Now even Simon, saw that there was something authentic and real in what Philip taught, he himself believed and was baptised.

From this time onward we can see something is not quite right in the life of Simon, he seems to be more interested in the power and miracles. All his life he would have used

# N HERETIC

trickery to wow people but here was something more powerful than he ever could imagine yet it was real and through an ordinary person. He was captivated and mesmerised by it. Therefore he believed and was even baptised, declaring himself to the world. Yet we can see that his life has hardly been changed. He was 'Revived but not Transformed.' He even tried to buy for himself the power of the Holy Spirit completely missing the point.

Even when he was admonished by Peter, he did not understand as he was focused on the consequences of his sin rather than the sin itself. Genuine repentance alluded him because his heart was not right with God. Today we are also, many a time, astonished and amazed by many signs and wonders being performed by many so-called great men of God and we get carried away in our admiration for it but without the inner transformation, it all amounts to nothing. What we need is 'Genuine Repentance' that will not only fully admit our sin(s) but also fully embrace all the consequences that come along with it.

This genuine repentance will pray for mercy, but will be willing to bear God's full and Righteous judgement.

There has been a heretic from the very beginning of Christianity but let us not be one. Prayer for a vigorous Spiritual growth that will transform our people and land. Let us not be satisfied with stunted growth but work for a luxuriant Christian maturity.

DR TEMJEN .....



# CHURCH, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND UNEMPLOYMENT

In our state, more than ever before, entrepreneurship has been given importance and is being recognized as something which can bring about positive change in our society. One important aspect which has contributed to this realization is increasing unemployment among the youth – which the state’s chief minister recently described as a “ticking time bomb”. Lack of opportunities has also resulted in youth migration from rural to urban and from Nagaland to mainland.

But here is the catch – entrepreneurs cannot be mass produced – unlike skill training, where hundreds can be trained for a particular vocation or job. There is a need to create entrepreneurs with ethics, with a purpose, with diligence, with a sense of dignity of labour. This is where the church can step in and play an important role.

## 1. FIRSTLY, ACKNOWLEDGE THE PROBLEM

What the church does not acknowledge, it cannot heal or transform.



*When leadership says:*

**“We have a problem...”**

*It becomes:*

**“We have a responsibility.”**



This, in turn:

- Breaks denial
- Invites collective wisdom
- Results in creative solutions

## 2. IS IT THE CHURCH’S PROBLEM?

Solving unemployment and developing an entrepreneurial ecosystem is not only the government’s problem. It is a shared responsibility and the church can play a meaningful role. The government’s role is to introduce effective policies and initiatives – which they have been doing but as we can see – they have not been able to mitigate the problem effectively. The church cannot replace the government, but it cannot ignore the problem, because unemployment affects dignity, family stability, and faith itself.

The church needs to take moral and spiritual responsibility as unemployment is not just economic – it impacts:

- Self-worth
- Mental health
- Family harmony
- Faith and hope

*“If one of you says... ‘Go in peace, keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing... what good is it?” – James 2:16*

If the church only prays but does not act, its witness is weakened.

## 3. NOTABLE INITIATIVES

Over the years, I have seen some notable initiatives by church based associations, organizations and individuals. These are examples on how stakeholders with a heart for positive change can make a difference.

- The NBCC’s Nagaland Development Outreach provides microfinance to entrepreneurs.
- The Western Sümi Baptist Akukuhou Küqhakulu (WSBAK) deserves a special mention herefor starting well directed initiatives like WSBAK Press & Publications which supports local authors and researchers, Canaan Yutech initiative to provide skill training and services such as Hair Cutting, Plumbing, AC repairs, Painting & Electrical to facilitate the skills

- and potentials of unemployed youths.
- Made in DABA initiative to showcase entrepreneurs.
- Self-reliant and Kenono projects of the Council of Rengma Baptist Churches.
- Hope café and livelihood development initiatives by Rev. Achu Chang and Rev. Chingmak Chang.

#### 4. HOW ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMPACTS COMMUNITIES

“Charityrelievespoverty,butentrepreneurship removes it.”

- Entrepreneurship can empower communities when business is practiced as a calling, stewardship, and service.
- Entrepreneurship is not just about making profits — it is about discovering, developing, and deploying the gifts God has already placed in people.
- Every person is created with abilities, creativity, and potential (Exodus 35:30–35).
- Small businesses generate employment and keep money circulating within the community.
- Manyentrepreneursolveproblemswithin the community(social entrepreneurship).
- Entrepreneurship moves people from dependency to productivity and restores confidence and self-worth.

#### 5. HOW THE CHURCH CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

The church can:

- **Bring Biblical perspective on work& entrepreneurship**  
Proverbs 14:23- “All hard work brings profit”  
2Thessalonians 3:10 – Encourages responsibility, not idleness.

- **Build entrepreneur fellowships & mentorship**

Churches already have a wealth of resource with them in the form of experienced entrepreneurs. Churches can create entrepreneur fellowships. Pair experienced business owners with beginners. Monthly prayer and problem-solving meetings can be organized.



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP



- **Utilise existing infrastructure**

Churches may have infrastructure like buildings, halls and compounds which remain idle on week days. Buildings can be used for skill training and enterprise development programs. These initiatives will create jobs like trainers, administrators and support staff to run them.

Church halls or compounds can be market and business platforms. They can be used for weekend markets, product exhibitions and startup demos. This will help to develop micro-entrepreneurs.

- **‘Meaningful Buildings’**

Many churches use their ‘extra funds’ to build buildings and give them out on rent. Instead, why not create spaces in the building and lease/rent them out to their church members/ entrepreneurs to set-up businesses like libraries/study spaces, retail outlets, paying guests, tuition centres, skill training centres, café/restaurant, co-working space and so on. This will empower the entrepreneurs and the church also gets their investment back-but more meaningfully.

- Create an “Entrepreneurship & Livelihood Fund”

For churches who wish to go the extra mile, they can set-up a dedicated fund. They can allocate a percentage of annual church income for this purpose. Special offerings or designated donations can also be organized. This fund can be used as seed capital for small businesses and training and incubation support.

### IN CONCLUSION

It is time the church not only nurtures spiritual life but also to equip believers for meaningful and productive work. From the beginning, God entrusted humanity with work and responsibility (Genesis 2:15). Work is therefore a divine calling, not merely a means of survival. When the church promotes entrepreneurship, it helps people use their God-given talents in ways that bring dignity, purpose, and provision.

Rising unemployment will only continue if we do not share the responsibility. By using its resources and influence to support entrepreneurship, the church becomes a visible witness of God’s kingdom—where faith works through love, diligence, and service to the community.



..... -DR. YAN MURRY  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE, PINNACLE SKILLS

# Balancing Fatherhood and Career :

## A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

### EXPECTATIONS AND CHALLENGES OF FATHERHOOD.

Paternity is undoubtedly one of the most fulfilling events in one's life, but it can carry some of the biggest responsibilities. Working fathers are faced with the challenge of necessity to work hard and be a provider while at the same time to be with children and family. This balance would need intentional planning and does not exclude stress and burn out if not well handled. The position of a father in society today as compared to many years ago has changed quite a lot. Fathers and Dads today do not only need to share child care responsibility but are expected to be more active in the child's well-being than in the past, all while being employed. Such a dual expectation can often make people feel that they are inadequate and not doing enough.

Neither career nor family is definitively more important; their relative value depends on individual circumstances and priorities. Both are crucial for overall well-being and finding a healthy balance between professional and personal goals is a key to a fulfilling life. While a career provides financial stability and professional fulfillment, family offers a support system and a source of happiness that cannot be bought.

Time is considered the most critical factor that working fathers struggle with. A day consists of only 24 hours, and hence, it becomes quite challenging on how to divide the available time with work, family, and other requirements. Numerous fathers claim that they constantly experience work-related guilt: they are guilty staying at work and wishing the time were spent



with their children, and, conversely, they are guilty spending time with the children and wondering whether they should be at work. With only 24 hours in a day, fathers often feel stretched between work and family obligations, leading to feelings of inadequacy. By "Careers" and "Working" one would include Fathers in all kinds of occupations, not necessarily office going. Among others these would include persons working in private companies who might be expected to stay late and even work from home after the normal office hours ; shopkeepers and entrepreneurs who might want to start early and stay up late ; doctors and medical workers who might be on call 24 hours ; teachers and scholars who might need to sit up late to complete lecture preparations, assignments or assessing examination scripts ; even pastors who might be have extensive home visits as well as social obligations, etc.

As the role of a father evolves beyond the traditional "breadwinner," modern fathers navigate the complex challenge of balancing their career ambitions with active family care. Some of these challenges are addressed below.

As mentioned earlier a major challenge is of time constraints. One needs to create clear distinctions between work and home life. If one uses management strategies like time-blocking, task batching, and building buffer time into a schedule, one can create more space for both career and family. This might mean turning off work emails after a certain hour or blocking out weekends for family activities. One can create a shared family calendar ( annual holidays, outings,

children's events, weddings, visits to relatives, etc) that includes everyone's schedule to avoid surprises and help plan for important events or activities.

Another stress challenge is emotional. Specifically, it concerns emotional labor related to parenting. Husbands and fathers are now expected to be affectionate and supportive; something that many of the present generation fathers might not have experienced when growing up. The stress and demands of balancing work and family can lead to burnout, anxiety, and depression. Many fathers face these struggles in isolation due to cultural norms against openly discussing their mental health. However, it can also come easy for some fathers to be more in touch with their emotions and to socially interact with their children. One needs to make time for one's own physical and mental health to ensure one has the energy to be present for their family. One should not neglect self-care: Exercising, engaging in hobbies, and nurturing friendships are crucial for managing stress and burnout, allowing fathers to be more present for their families.

Acknowledging that one does not need to be perfect can reduce stress. One way of de-stressing before returning home is using the commute to transition from work mode to "dad mode." Turn off the phone and use the time to decompress so you can be present when you arrive home.

A third area of stress is financial, a factor that is familiar to most fathers. Among the factors that may result in family stress are the attempts to offer a comfortable life to the family members which may cause the heads of families to spend longer hours at work. The pressure to provide for a family financially can motivate fathers to work longer hours, inadvertently limiting their family time and fueling the work-life conflict. Balancing between work, that provides money in a pocket, and family, that grants emotions in a heart, can be a struggle.

### **A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE. :**

There can be other forms of challenges. In

each of those challenges, how is a Christian father expected to address them? One would perhaps need to understand first what the role and purpose of a Christian Father is. In our belief as Christians, we accept God as our Heavenly Father who blesses us with families to love and care for. So what is His purpose for earthly fathers? The task of being a good father is too important to handle alone. We need to humbly ask God for the grace and wisdom needed to fulfill our role. One needs to pursue spiritual wisdom through regular prayer and reading Scripture to maintain a biblical perspective on work and family. One needs to put relationship with God first.

Christian teaching emphasizes that all other relationships and responsibilities stem from and are strengthened by one's relationship with God. When one considers one's approach to work, one realizes that work is a God-given blessing, not a curse, and should be performed with a new sense of purpose and perspective. God based, God centric.

God provides for more than physical needs. A Christian father is commanded to provide for his family's needs, but this extends beyond financial provision. It also includes emotional support, spiritual leadership, and quality time. One needs to re-evaluate demanding jobs. If your job constantly requires excessive hours, you may need to prayerfully evaluate whether it is compatible with your commitment to your family. Trust God to provide for your needs.

Set aside quality time for the family. Set clear boundaries. Establish and communicate strict boundaries around work hours to protect family time. One needs to invest quality time: to make time for each child individually and for the family as a whole. Remember that children need one's best time, not just one's leftovers. This means scheduling family time in advance and protecting it. Focus on quality, not quantity: Spending 15 minutes of fully present, focused time with a child is more valuable than longer periods with mental distractions.. Be emotionally present: Provide emotional support by being encouraging and understanding. This is just as crucial as physical presence and day-to-day care. Actively engage

in care giving: Participate in all aspects of your child's life, including physical care like feeding and dressing, and helping with homework. If no helpers are engaged, one can contribute to home care even by washing of laundry and pressing / ironing clothes. Some might prefer cooking..

In Godly and Christian ways, one needs to prioritize one's family. Biblical teaching emphasizes that your family is your primary mission field and ministry. Be a loving husband: Loving your wife as Christ loves the church is one of the greatest things you can do for your children. A strong marriage provides a stable and secure environment for the family. In cases of dual-earner households, mothers often continue to shoulder a disproportionate share of childcare and housework, even if they have demanding careers. One needs to appreciate this and respect them for such. Pray for your family: consistently pray for your wife and children. Letting them know you pray for them provides a deep sense of security and love. Encourage praying together.

In family life one needs to serve as a spiritual leader and a role model. Children will learn by observing your life and how you handle all your responsibilities. Lead by example: Demonstrate a Christ-like attitude in all areas of your life, including how you handle stress and interact with your wife and children. Your daily conduct is a "letter from God" that your children read every day. Set an example: Be a role model by demonstrating positive behaviors and values through your actions and conduct. Do your job diligently, with integrity, viewing it as an act of worship to God, not just as a way to earn a living. Discipline children with love and patience, always pointing them toward a relationship with Christ. This is part of the father's primary responsibility to train his children in the Lord.

Share your world and talk to your children about your work to help them understand your professional life. If possible, even take them to see where your work. Talk with your partner about your roles and expectations for childcare and household tasks. If needed, find support networks: Connecting with other working fathers, joining parent resource groups, or seeking

professional counseling can provide emotional support and practical advice.

A good father is present and involved, loving and supportive, and reliable and responsible. Key qualities include being patient, a good listener, a role model, and a source of encouragement. This involves spending quality time with children, expressing love verbally, setting consistent boundaries, and showing respect for their mother and the child. Successfully balancing career and family requires intentional strategies from fathers, support from partners, and systemic changes in the workplace. Christian Fathers acknowledge that children are a gift from God and are placed under their care to learn, live and grow in the fear of the Lord.

God is in control and God is the true and everlasting father. He will provide. He will lead. As earthly Fathers while we will give our best, we can be reminded what a leading researcher in child development found : that parents only need to get it right 30% of the time for their children to thrive. Yes, you read that correctly. That means you can mess up—quite a lot—and your child will still be just fine. God will reward your commitment and take care of the rest.

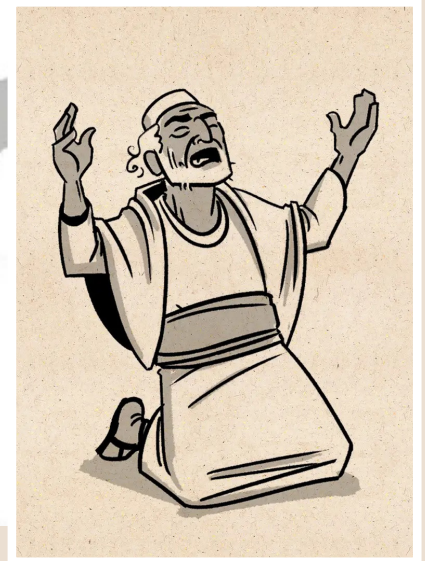
God bless and empower all fathers and dads.

PROF. DARLANDO KHATHING



## A REFLECTION ON HABAKKUK:

# FROM FRUSTRATIONS TO A RESOUNDING PRAISE



In the book of Habakkuk, we see the dialogue between Prophet Habakkuk and God as he witnesses his own nation, his own people, the chosen people of God on their way towards a steep spiritual and societal decline. From the depths of despair, the Prophet pleads to the Lord to ‘remember mercy’ as he waits patiently.

### CHAPTER 1

Prophet Habakkuk sees the desolation in Judah: idolatry, strife, violence, injustice, misery, and wickedness all around him. One can feel his frustration as he voices to God, “...I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight. The law has become paralyzed, and there is no justice in the courts. The wicked far outnumber the righteous, so that justice has become perverted”(Hab. 1:3-4 NLT). The Prophet thought God was not doing anything about it and asks God why he does not hear his call for help or does not save when he cries out to Him – “Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing?”(Hab 1:3 NIV). This scenario is

relatable even in our day and age, and echoes how the Bible remains profoundly relevant thousands of years later. We see strife and violence among families, tribes, religions, and countries all around us. Idolatry appears in many forms, accompanied by false teachings, indifference, complacency, and all kinds of crime. There is upheaval of all sorts in the world—political, economic, physical, and spiritual. Are we in despair thinking that God is not doing anything? Are we dismayed and feeling hopeless because of the situations in our families, in our personal lives and the world around us? Like Prophet Habakkuk, do we not think that the Sovereign God is a mere spectator and not listening to our cries?

The Lord answers Habakkuk in an astounding manner, the Lord says, “you would not believe even if you were told”(Hab 1:5bNIV). A prophecy which foretells how God is raising up and will use the ruthless, arrogant and impetuous Babylonians who are guilty of making their ‘own strength their god’. They were self-dependent and full of adulations for themselves. “Is not this great

*Babylon, which I have built by my mighty power as a royal residence and for the glory of my majesty?"* says King Nebuchadnezzar in **Daniel 4:30 ESV**, despite warnings from God. This attitude led to his great humiliation. Poor Prophet Habakkuk is even more perturbed at the Lord's reply to his frustrated pleadings. He asks God 'why?'. The prophet seems speechless that God is using a much more treacherous and wicked people to reproof His people. The fearsome fame of the Babylonian is known to Habakkuk and he asks God if he will use them to "... *mercilessly kill nations forever?*" (Hab1:17 ESV). Astounded, he is! He is unable to comprehend why would the holy God allow such a guilty and wicked nation as His instrument of justice to reprimand a 'more righteous' people of Judah. I believe that we all have, at some points in our lives asked, 'Why God?'. God's answers to our prayers may not be what we expect or think or even want. We can relate to the distress that Prophet Habakkuk is in, and like him, when we do not fully understand why God allows certain situations in our life, we do question God.

## CHAPTER 2

I can picture Prophet Habakkuk standing at the watch tower, folding his hands in a naive childlike manner as he says "*There I will wait to see what the Lord says and how he will answer my complaint.*" (**Hab. 2:1 NLT**). In his confusion and concern, he goes to the right person with the right attitude instead of looking for answers elsewhere. The Prophet awaits in full trust and very expectantly for the Lord's answer. Once again, the Lord answers and this time, he asks the prophet to "*Write the vision; make it plain on tablets...*" (Hab. 2:2ESV). Must be quite important! Write down, so that it is vivid to him and it will be carried to the future ages. In a similar way, God also asked Apostle John to write down the revelations (Rev. 21:5). The Lord continues with his response and tells Habakkuk to 'take heart' saying that even if it seems slow, even if it feels like it is lingering, the vision will surely come at the appointed time. The Lord tells Habakkuk that he knows the Babylonians, that they are proud and trust in themselves and their souls are not upright but He assures Habakkuk

that those who are "*righteous will live by their faithfulness to God*" (**Hab. 2:4 NLT**). He compares the Babylonians to be as greedy as the grave and as unsatisfied as death in their worldly conquests! But soon, a time will come for them to be judged. The Lord pronounces a series of woes for the Babylonians:

1. "*Woe to him who heaps up what is not his own...*" (**Hab. 2:6 ESV**); they are accused of theft and extortion but will be taunted and mocked by their debtors.
2. They have plundered and murdered, for which they will be met with the same violent fate.
3. They have built cities with bloodshed, unjust means and corruption; and the stones and walls and beams cry out against them. "*What sorrow awaits, you who build big houses with money gained dishonestly! You believe your wealth will buy security, putting your family's nest beyond the reach of danger*" (**Hab. 2:9 NLT**).
4. They have corrupted others and are given to drunkenness and lust but soon the Lord's judgment is coming "*...and all your glory will be turned to shame.*" (**Hab. 2:16 NIV**).
5. And finally, they are accused of being idolatrous through and through – shaping wood, stone, gold and silver which has no breath as their God. "*Woe to him who says to wood, 'Come to life!' Or to lifeless stone, 'Wake up! Can it give guidance?'*" (**Hab. 2:19 NLT**).

These lines of woe upon woe resonate with a strong familiarity even in our time. In seeing all these as realities in our days, do we fall into despair and hopelessness? What an utter state of dystopia it would be if this were the end of the story. But the Lord does not leave it at that. Yet, in the midst of all this chaos, there is hope! "*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*" (**Hab. 2:14 ESV**). Oh, how reassuring the words from the Lord himself must have been for Prophet Habakkuk- as they are for us too. The Lord's response to Habakkuk - "*The Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him*" (**Hab. 2:20 ESV**) - reminds us of His presence in the holy temple and calls us to reverence, silence, and awe before Him.

### CHAPTER 3

Habakkuk cannot hold back; he breaks into a prayerful, resounding psalm of praise and thanksgiving as he sees the holiness of God and His mighty works in all of the earth. In this, he finds confidence in the Lord and rejoices - even in the midst of calamity. He says,

***“Lord, I have heard of your fame;  
I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord.  
Repeat them in our day,  
in our time make them known;  
in wrath remember mercy.” (Hab 3:2NIV)***

Habakkuk saw the glory and splendor of the Almighty God revealed throughout the earth and across the history of the Israelites. Before His divine power come pestilence and plague; the ancient mountains crumble and the age-old hills collapse. Tents and dwellings are thrown into distress; the earth shakes and the nations tremble. The deep roars and the waves rise high; the sun and moon stand still and the enemies are defeated.

*“You came out to deliver your people, to save your anointed one. You crushed the leader of the land of wickedness; you stripped him from head to foot.”(Hab 3:13 NIV).* Habakkuk remembers the vision of the impending doom of the Babylonian conquest of Judah. He also recalls how God will use that dreadful and ruthless people to invade and completely plunder the land. One can scarcely imagine how Habakkuk must have felt - the wrath of God was surely coming upon them. He says his heart pounded, his lips quivered, and he trembled at the thought; yet even then, he chose to wait on the Lord. He declares that he will wait patiently for the day of calamity. When we face doomsday-like situations—whether on a personal, family, or national level—can we, with grace and trust, also say that we will wait patiently on the Lord? When there is no fruit, no leaves, no crop, no food, no cattle; Yet, Habakkuk rejoices in the Lord because his strength is in the Lord and not on the things of this world. He is ‘joyful in the Lord’ because his God is his saviour and not wood or stones or gold

or silver.

*“...Yet I will wait patiently for the day of calamity to come on the nation invading us.*

*<sup>17</sup> Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls,*

*<sup>18</sup> yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.*

*<sup>19</sup> The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.”*

**(Hab 3:16b-20 NIV)**

Habakkuk came before the Lord with hard questions, seeking answers, yet instead he encountered God Himself. He beheld the beauty of His glory and holiness, the majesty of the Sovereign God, the power of the Almighty, his Rock and his Saviour—who makes him stand firm and tread upon higher ground.

*Amen.*

- MRS KOWE



# THE BOOK OF JOB:

## ENDURANCE IN THE FACE OF SUFFERING

The book is named for its main character – the man we know as Job. Scripture describes him as a righteous man who was very rich. Job’s home was Hauran, in the land of Uz (Mesopotamia), which was probably located along the border between Edom (Palestine) and northern Arabia. He lived at a time when wealth was measured in terms of flocks and servants, and he is believed to have lived for more than 200 years.

Many believe that Job is one of the oldest books of the Bible. This book is universal in its scope, and timeless in its application. The lessons we can glean from this book are relevant to us even today. It is not clearly known who the author is, but it is believed to be most likely an Israelite who probably had access to oral and/or written sources from which he composed the book. Although the book of Job is written in poetry, the content makes it fit with wisdom literature.

Job was not an Israelite, and there is no mention of the Israelites or the Mosaic Covenant in the book. The language used also indicates that the events recorded in this book probably took place before the time of Moses. Many believe that Job lived during the same time, or shortly after the time of Abraham. The writing of the book took place much later than the events recorded in it and was likely written anytime between the reign of king Solomon to the exile.

Some of the notable verses from this book are Job 1:21 and Job 19:25-27.

### **Job 1:21**

<sup>21</sup> He said,  
*“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked I shall return there.  
The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord.”*

Job 19:25-27

<sup>25</sup> *“As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth.*

<sup>26</sup> *“Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God;*

<sup>27</sup> *Whom I myself shall behold, And whom my eyes will see and not another.*

*My heart faints within me!*

(NASB)

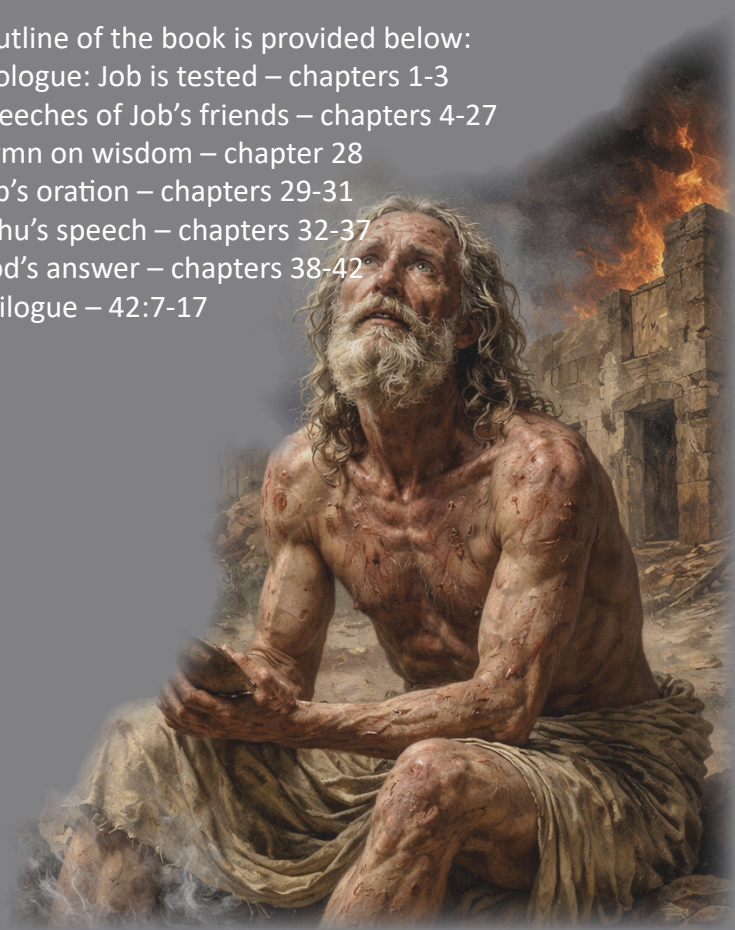
Two Messianic passages are found in the book of Job:

1. References to the resurrection of the righteous – Job 14:14, 15.
2. Final resurrection and glory with Him – Job 19: 25-27

Characters found in the book of Job are the man Job himself, Job’s wife (her name is not provided), Eliphaz (a descendant of Esau), Bildad (a descendant of Abraham and Keturah), Zophar (from an unknown locality), and Elihu (said to be a descendant of Nahor, Abraham’s brother).

An outline of the book is provided below:

1. Prologue: Job is tested – chapters 1-3
2. Speeches of Job’s friends – chapters 4-27
3. Hymn on wisdom – chapter 28
4. Job’s oration – chapters 29-31
5. Elihu’s speech – chapters 32-37
6. God’s answer – chapters 38-42
7. Epilogue – 42:7-17



The story of Job is familiar to many of us. He was a man who is so godly that Satan challenged God to test Job to see if his faith was genuine. Scripture tells us that Job was a man of outstanding goodness. God was pleased with Job, because Job loved him and was faithful to him.

Now, Satan came with the accusation that Job was faithful to God only because God had blessed him with wealth, without which he would abandon his commitment to God. So God gave Satan permission to take away everything Job had – health, wealth, family. Job had to experience Satan’s touch without knowing why.

Job’s friends came to comfort and counsel him. However, the counsel they gave him, although well-intentioned, was misguided. They were convinced that Job was suffering because he had sinned. Job remained faithful to God even when he had been stripped of everything. Although he came close to despair and never knew the reason for his suffering, he refused to take his wife’s advice and curse God.

In chapters 38-42, God responds to Job’s challenge by appearing to him in power and wisdom. God told Job he was suffering not because he was evil but for a much higher purpose. Job’s righteousness and his faith in God were tested and proven to be genuine. Following this, God gave him a new understanding of His sovereign power and wisdom, and He also restored to Job much more than he had in the beginning of the story. Towards the end of the book, Job realized that God is bigger than the religious thinking of his day allowed.

People can relate to the story of Job because all humans will experience sadness, despair, or loss at some point in their lives. The story of Job is a tool to help believers understand the role of suffering in the world.

The book of Job is one of the three books of wisdom in the Old Testament (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes). It stands alone in the Old Testament. It is also distinct from the wisdom literature of the time. The Book of Job is found in the Ketuvim ("Writings") section of the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh). A look at the structure of the book shows that the beginning and end are in prose, but most of it is poetry.

There are two categories of wisdom literature of the ancient Near East:

1. Brief proverbial maxims stating observations about life in general. These tend to be instructional or didactic in nature and are usually optimistic about life.
2. Sages in the ancient Near East produced documents containing lengthy discourses or essays grappling with life’s most difficult problems. These dialogues or monologues are frequently, but not always, pessimistic.

The word translated as wisdom in the Bible is the Hebrew word *chokmâh*. It was used throughout the Old Testament to talk about people who did things with skill. In the Old Testament, a wise life requires commitment to God’s Law. So, when we read about wisdom in the books of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, they are referring to people who have skillfully applied God’s teaching in their lives. Thus, it says in Proverbs 1:7 and 9:10 – The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and knowledge.

The concept of the family as the most important educational unit was true of ancient Israel as well as other parts of the ancient world. However, other ancient Near East examples of instructional wisdom were different from Hebrew Wisdom Literature. While the Hebrews had a word for ‘wisdom’, Egyptian does not have a word for wisdom per se; they used the word “instruction.” Rather, they had wise sayings which helped one lead a successful life.

Another ancient Near East example which didn’t have a word for “wisdom” is Mesopotamia. The Mesopotamians believed in the doctrine of retribution. This was a commonly held belief in those days, which accounts for the kind of counsel Job’s friends gave him. The doctrine of retribution was a general moral principle of God’s administration of justice, but not a hard and fast rule to be applied to every individual case.

The purpose of the book of Job can be understood as follows:

### **1. The book addresses a crucial question: why do bad things happen to good people?**

The book provides a profound statement on the justice of God in light of human suffering.

- a) Why do good and godly people suffer?
- b) Why does God allow tragedy in the world?
- c) What is the meaning of suffering?

How can the justice of an almighty God be defended in the face of evil, especially human suffering, and even more particularly, the suffering of the innocent?

### **2. There is a spiritual realm in which moral agents are involved in a struggle.**

There is a personal source of evil in the world who is in rebellion against God.

We see how Satan attacked Job. Humans know very little about the physical realm, and they know even less about the spiritual realm, which is where the real answers to the questions lie. The suffering of the righteous man must be seen in the light of the cosmic struggle between God and Satan. Human suffering of itself is no evidence of the displeasure of God.

### **3. The book shows the sovereignty of God and His graciousness.**

The story of Job demonstrates God's presence and authority even in the midst of suffering. God is with his people at all times.

The book of Job is a great encouragement for the believer in the face of suffering. The story of Job teaches us:

1. of patient endurance and faithfulness in times of great suffering,
2. that wisdom belongs to God and resolute faith in him will be vindicated,
3. that all forms of suffering and sorrow are the results of sin in the world,
4. that God sometimes uses testings and trials in dealing with His people. In this way he helps to develop the best qualities they possess, as well as to rid their lives of other unhelpful qualities.
5. that God is able to work all things – even evil things – together for good (Rom.8:28), and those who are faithful to him to the end will

benefit from the evil they must suffer. May we, like Job, be found faithful to God and persevere when faced with trials and suffering. Let us continue to turn to the Lord and trust Him even when things don't make sense, and all we can ask is 'why'. For even though we may not fully understand why things happen the way they do sometimes, we can trust the almighty and sovereign God that He has not abandoned us; our suffering won't go to waste. He is working all things for our good as we continue to put our hope in Him.

- KIM LEIVON

# BUILDING A CHRIST CENTERED HOME:

## A JOURNEY OF FAMILY, FAITH AND GRACE

Growing up as a young girl, I was quite family-oriented, finding immense joy in spending time with my loved ones. I am blessed to have been raised by parents who imprinted the fear and love of God in me, and I remain ever thankful to God for their investment in my faith journey from such a young age.

As I grew older and pursued further studies away from home, the value of family became even greater. I began to envision building a Christ-centered home someday. It was during this time that the Lord opened doors for me to be part of the UESI (Union of Evangelical Students of India) ministry, which had a huge impact on my spiritual journey. In one particular evangelistic camp, with late Uncle Amzad and Auntie Yurilla as resource persons, shared deep thoughts on “Christian Marriage and Home” and their personal experiences. Witnessing their strong and beautiful marriage, rooted in the word of God was such an inspiration that really encouraged me to be more intentional in my prayers for my future partner from that point onward.

My husband and I started our journey as a couple sixteen years ago and now have been parents for eleven years to our two precious children—a gift from God. When God entrusted us with our first child, we made a commitment that our priority as parents would be to bring up our children in the fear and knowledge of God. In His grace and mercy, He has been guiding us thus far, and we continue to seek His guidance for the journey ahead.

One great privilege at this phase of life as a family is to serve the Lord in our own humble way and seeing our children joyfully partnering with us in this mission is fulfilling. Despite our own limitations, we always encourage the value of honesty and integrity in our children, and in that

process, we remind each other that our children need to witness those values demonstrated in our own daily lives. Hospitality and stewardship are principles we desire to stay committed to as a family and God has been teaching us so much in this aspect that His grace is truly evident in our family stories.

Life includes seasons of fun and happiness, but there is no denial that challenges come along, and as parents of two young and energetic boys, it has been quite overwhelming at times. Balancing discipline and grace are a significant challenge for us, as it is often easier to react in the heat of the moment than to show grace. Particularly as a mother, I wouldn't deny that balancing chores, other responsibilities, and spiritual growth is tough at times. This is when I am reminded to slow down, take things one day at a time, and turn to God; that is where I find my peace and direction. When it comes to time management, we are still learning so much, and striving to be more disciplined remains a priority. Incorporating household chores, serving others, and some basic life skills into our children's routine has a positive impact on their lives, and that way, we are trying to encourage them to put their best effort into



every task they do.

As our children spread their wings, sometimes our hearts are also filled with fear of the negative influences out in the world. In the midst of all uncertainties, we are reminded of God's sovereignty, and that is where we humble ourselves and surrender everything to Him.

"In Him our hearts rejoice" from Psalm 33:21 was the theme we chose for our wedding, and this passage continues to be at the core of our home.

The gift of family is a journey we are so privileged to experience, and it is only by His grace that we have been able to come this far. To be able to experience the ups and downs together as a

family, and to be in prayers and prayed for by our children, has indeed deepened our relationship with God and with one another; through it all, we have learned to trust in God all the more.

As I penned down my thoughts on this topic, I am deeply reminded of God's favour upon my family. The love and support we receive from our families and the church community have a huge impact on our family's spiritual journey, and we are ever grateful to God for that. I believe the thoughts shared here will challenge each of us to put our trust fully in the Lord as we navigate our journeys as families. May we all continue to find joy in building a Christ-centred home. Amen.

- MRS KHONZANI



**GROWING IN**  
*Grace*  
**THROUGH WORSHIP MINISTRY**

**COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH, DIMAPUR**

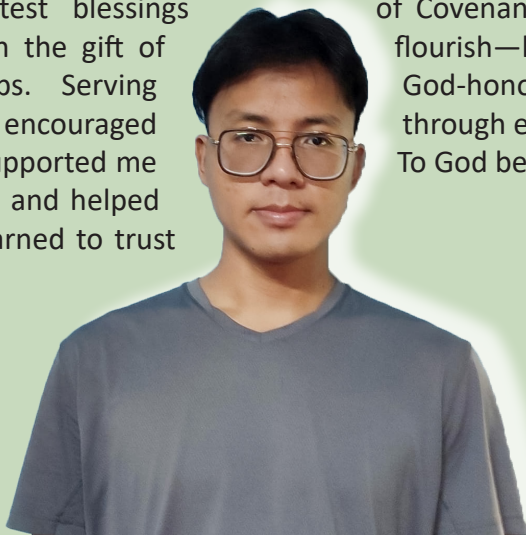
Serving as part of the worship team has been one of the most meaningful and transformative experiences of my faith journey. I joined the CBCD Worship Team in January 2020, and I remain sincerely grateful to God and to the church for granting me the privilege of serving in this ministry. My time in the Praise & Worship team has been deeply enriching, continually reminding me of my identity in Christ and guiding me to understand worship in a more profound and biblical manner. Over the years, God has taught me the true meaning of worship—not as a musical expression alone, but as a wholehearted response to who God is. Worship, I have learned, is a posture of reverence, gratitude, and surrender. It is reflected not only in the songs we sing, but in the lives we

live. This ministry has shaped my understanding that genuine worship flows from a heart aligned to God, marked by humility, obedience, and a desire to glorify Him above all.

Through this journey, I have also grown to appreciate the role and responsibility of a worship team member. Being part of the team is not simply about participating in music; it is about cultivating a heart that leads by example, demonstrating humility, discipline, and devotion. A worship team member is called to prepare diligently, serve faithfully, and support the congregation in focusing their hearts on God. It requires unity, accountability, and a willingness to let God work through us rather than drawing attention to ourselves.

I have also become more aware of areas where I needed growth, and in each of these moments, God has been faithful—revealing my shortcomings and directing me toward correction and maturity. The worship ministry has shaped not only my abilities but also my discipline, attitude, and walk with Christ.

One of the greatest blessings during this time has been the gift of Christ-centered friendships. Serving alongside individuals who encouraged me, challenged me, and supported me has strengthened my faith and helped me grow. Together, we learned to trust



God, support one another, and place His purposes above our own preferences.

As I reflect on my years in this ministry, I do so with gratitude and humility. The lessons I have learned about worship, leadership, and spiritual growth are ones I will carry forward. It is my earnest prayer that the worship ministry of Covenant Baptist Church will continue to flourish—leading the congregation in sincere, God-honoring worship and glorifying Christ through every expression of praise. To God be the glory.

..... - MR PETER

# Youth Ministry

## REPORT 2025

### SUPPORT, EQUIP, EMPOWER – WILL YOU JOIN THE JOURNEY?

*“From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” - Ephesians 4:16*

Over the past year, our youth ministry has been a space where lives are transformed, leaders are raised, and the love of God is experienced in a real and powerful way. With the theme “Support, Equip, Empower”, we’ve seen God’s faithfulness and the church family’s partnership make a lasting impact among young people. The question is: will you join this journey of transformation?

#### YOUTH EXPRESS REPORT

- 41 services held with impactful talks like “Empowering Youths, Transforming Society: Making a Difference in our Community” & “Serving God through Excellence in Your Field”
- Special services like Advent cum competition, Teens welcome, Friendship Day.
- Evangelistic Week (“Encounter”, Acts 8:26-40):
  - 120 youths attended
  - 50 responded to God’s call
  - 20 accepted Christ as personal Lord & Savior
  - 7 committed to full-time ministry - are you ready to surrender?

- Youth Camp (“The Narrow Path”, Matt 7:13-14) at Universal Prayer Centre, Mon Bosti:
  - 46 campers (22 women, 24 men)
  - 5 accepted Jesus, 38 recommitted - how about you?
- Bible Study (Mark’s Gospel) led by Mrs. Watila Amit - seeing positive responses from youths hungry for God’s Word!
- Testimony: A resistant young man at camp was transformed by the Holy Spirit. He embraced Christ, attended youth services, impacted a friend who got baptized this year - “our labor is not in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:58). Will you invest in young lives?

**Invitation: Join Youth Express! Be part of Evangelistic Week, Youth Camp, regular services - change lives!**

**CROSSOVER FELLOWSHIP REPORT**

- Monthly fellowships for young professionals; 11 fellowship held this year
- Retreat to Shillong: blessed time with speakers Rev. Meyu Changkiri & Dr. Balajied Nongrum - challenged to live better & serve God
- Crossover members served at:
  - Youth Camp (counseling, kitchen, mentorship)
  - Worship team
  - Devotional services
  - Thanksgiving stalls
  - Impact: showing growth as servant leaders - will you step up?

**Invitation: Join Crossover! Monthly fellowships (potlucks, picnics, talks), Retreats - connect, grow, serve with like-minded pros.**

**Conclusion**  
 The church’s investment in young lives is bearing fruit. Let’s Support, Equip, Empower our youth for God’s purpose. Are you in?

MRS KEWI PFUNO .....



# Annual

## MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST (MBP) FOR THE YEAR 2025

For the year 2025 we the Men's group decided to have a Systematic Bible study every 2nd Saturday morning of the month led by Rev.Babu, Chaplin of Olive Christian Hospital.

SL.NO	MONTH	2ND SATURDAY MORNING MEET	OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH.	WORSHIP LEADING
1	January			1 <sup>st</sup> January: New Year's eve Worship
2	February	<b>8<sup>th</sup> February:</b> 1st- Bible Study from the book of Matthew 1:1-25.		23 <sup>rd</sup> February
3	March	<b>7<sup>th</sup> March:</b> 2nd- Bible Study from Matthew 2:1-23 and 3:1-17	<b>30<sup>th</sup> March:</b> Special song in the Church's mission month. "People need the Lord."	30 <sup>th</sup> March
4	April	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April:</b> 3rd-Bible Study from Matthew 4:1-25		27 <sup>th</sup> April
5	May	<b>9<sup>th</sup> May:</b> 4th- Bible Study from Matthew 5:1-12: The Beatitudes	<b>13<sup>th</sup> May:</b> Mother's day.Rev.Babu Bhat, shared the word of God in the Church.16th May-1st Futsal match at Arena 365. <b>31<sup>st</sup> May:</b> 2nd Futsal as well as Badminton played at Arena 365. Ushering: May 11th and 25th	18 <sup>th</sup> May
5	June	<b>14<sup>th</sup> June:</b> 5th- Bible Study from Matthew 5:13-16- God given identity.Matthew 5:17-20- The 9 case studies following the sermon on the mount.	<b>29<sup>th</sup> June:</b> Participate in the Church's Hymnal Sunday.1st June: Ushering.	22 <sup>nd</sup> June

# R E P O R T

6	July	<b>12<sup>th</sup> July:</b> 6th - Bible Study from Matthew 5:21-26	<b>10<sup>th</sup> July:</b> 3rd futsal match	27th July
7	August	<b>9<sup>th</sup> August:</b> 7th- Bible Study from Matthew 5:27-32	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> August:</b> led the worship at 'Town Baptist Church' as part of Friendship Sunday. 23 <sup>rd</sup> August: Led the worship at 'Refuel' programme.	
8	September	<b>27<sup>th</sup> September:</b> 8th-Open Discussion with Rev. Babu Bhat based on the Bible	Ushering: September 14th	5 <sup>th</sup> October
9	October	<b>18<sup>th</sup> October:</b> 9th and 10th combined: Bible Study from the Book Of Matthew 5:33-48 and Matthew 6:1-18  <b>2<sup>nd</sup> October:</b> Led the Worship on one of the day at the 'India Mission Summit' at DABA  <b>24<sup>th</sup> October:</b> 4th Futsal at Arena365  Ushering: 26 <sup>th</sup> October.	<b>5<sup>th</sup> October</b>	

God has been gracious and magnificent that we could complete the Bible study on the book of Matthew. It has been truly a blessed time of looking in depth into the word of God. Looking forward to another year of study in 2026 from the book of Revelation.

# Women Ministry

## ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Greetings in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! On behalf of the women's department, I present this report thanking the Lord for his continuous blessings and guidance as we reflect on another year of women's ministry. Grateful to God for our Church family, the core team, and our women folk for the unwavering support, encouragement, and prayers.

I am grateful that in so many diverse, unique, and impactful ways, many of our women have been part of our women's ministry by their willingness to serve, support, equip and empower one another, embracing our theme, and living out the truth of Ephesians 4:16

### SUMMARY OF WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENTS FROM FEBRUARY TO DECEMBER, 2025

#### FEBRUARY, 2025

On 21 February, the core team held its first meeting where we mapped out our yearly plan. The core team members are : Mrs. Sarila, Mrs. Khonzani, Mrs. Ketuno, Mrs. Zuthunglo, Mrs. Arenla Yaden, Mrs. Kewi, Mrs. Michelle

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#### MARCH, 2025

14th March : Monthly fellowship  
Speaker: Pastor Yabang Longkumer

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#### APRIL, 2025

12th April : Monthly fellowship  
Speaker: Mrs. Rongsenla Longkumer

25th April : Some of us from women's group attended a one-day spiritual awakening program on the theme 'O' Lord Revive us Again', under Aparna Ministries at Town Baptist Church, Dimapur.

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#### MAY, 2025

5th May : Some of us from Women's group had the privilege of attending a one-day retreat organized by DBWU (Dimapur Baptist Women's Union) on the theme 'Disruptive Women, A Kingdom Call to Bold Leadership' at Police Baptist Church, Dimapur.

10th May : A one-day retreat on the theme ' For Such a Time as This' based on Esther 4:14 was organized at our church with Mrs. Twinkle Kiba as the resource person. The retreat was truly a blessed one where all the participants experienced spiritual rejuvenation through inspiring sessions and meaningful connections.

30th May : We had the privilege to host the 1st executive meeting of the DBWU at our church.

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**JUNE, 2025**

- 7th June : Monthly fellowship  
Speaker: Mrs. Gerla Longkumer
- 15th June : Our women's group took the initiative to organize and lead our church's Father's Day program expressing our appreciation and recognizing the fathers and father figures. Mrs. Watila Amit shared the word of God.
- 20th June : We had the privilege to attend the 1st combine service of DBWU, and shared the pulpit in prayer at Kuda Village Baptist Church, Dimapur.

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**JULY, 2025**

- 12th July : Monthly fellowship  
Speaker : Mrs. Atemla Anichari  
Testimony Sharing : Mrs. Flora Panmei Leivon shared her powerful testimony on faith and perseverance amidst her cancer journey.

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**AUGUST, 2025**

- 10th August :  
·The women folk enjoyed a movie evening and fellowship, relaxing and connecting over an inspiring christian movie  
·Launching of Prayer Partner Ministry.  
Exhortation: Mrs. Santi Keyho
- 20th August : Attended the 2nd executive meeting of DBWU at Chandel Baptist Church, Dimapur with one of our women group members.

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**SEPTEMBER, 2025**

- 13th September : Our women's group took the lead in organizing and participating in our church fasting & prayer program.

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**OCTOBER, 2025**

- 11th October : Monthly fellowship  
Speaker : Dr. Amenla Longkumer who courageously shared her inspiring personal journey with breast cancer and gave awareness talk on the disease.
- 25th October : Some of our women participated in the combined social work organized by DBWU, Team Better Dimapur, and Tenyimi Students' Union Dimapur, cleaning and beautifying Dimapur city (From City Tower to Tragopan junction).
- 31st October : Some of us from our group attended the 2nd combine service of DBWU at Lhomithi Baptist Church, Dimapur.

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**NOVEMBER, 2025**

- 5th November : Our women’s group participated through giving and assisting the jumble sale at super market, Dimapur organized by DBWU in aid of combined advent Christmas on 1st December jointly organized by Dimapur Baptist Pastors’ Fellowship, Dimapur Baptist Women Union, and Dimapur Baptist Youth Fellowship.
- 8th November : Our women’s group shared a meaningful fellowship with Persons With Disabilities.  
Speaker : Mrs. Kewfi Pfüno

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**DECEMBER, 2025**

- 1st December : Some of us had the privilege to attend the combined advent Christmas jointly organized by Dimapur Baptist Pastors’ Fellowship, Dimapur Baptist Women Union, and Dimapur Baptist Youth Fellowship at DDSC stadium where Pastor Yabang shared God’s word. Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezung represented our women’s group in the DBWU choir.
- 7th December : Our women’s group had a joyous advent Christmas fellowship at sis. Ketuno’s residence. Mrs. Santi Keyho shared the word of God.
- 12th December : We had the privilege to attend the DBWU combined advent Christmas service at Lotha Baptist Church, Dimapur, and shared the pulpit in leading the service.

**HOME VISITATIONS**

We had the privilege to visit and share joyous moments, offering prayers and blessings with ten (10) families with young children, and families welcoming newborn babies celebrating new life and God’s love.

As we look to the future, we are excited for the new initiatives and opportunities God is placing before us, as we prayerfully consider to use our unique gifts and talents to serve one another and further God’s Kingdom.

In his service,

DR. MICHELLE KAMEI .....



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## LOOKING BACK INTO 2025



Just like every new year has its own share of adventures, lessons and challenges, the year 2025 was full of that with memories worth keeping.

The theme “Imitators of God”- Ephesians 5:1-2 kept us focus on God’s loving and sovereign nature and to strive walking in His likeness.

We praise God for the annual events where children, teachers and I believe parents alike have been drawn closer. We also thank God for new families who chose to join along with us in pursuit of training their children in the Lord.

Learning more Bible stories, new songs, meeting new friends, organizing Sunday school (SS) assessments, involving in special presentation for the church, celebrating church events, learning about missions, going out for picnics, teen’s retreat, the bus rides, the sunday treats, some of us experiencing new things like pond-crossing adventures and discussing difficult topics like “True Love Waits” , the department has definitely had a rollercoaster ride this year.

The closing ceremony for SS at star bazaar was the icing on the cake where each child reaped the fruit of their labour through the stars they have earned over this year.

On 2nd Advent Christmas, Dec 7th a few students from each class and some teachers put up a special Christmas narration and sang a song “JOY”.

We hope that the children will grow to love God and be a beacon of light wherever they go. Until 2026, the department sends out warm season’s greetings to one and all. May the love of Christ go on to live in our hearts.

Blessings !



MRS. ZUTHUNGLO EZUNG .....  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR, C E DEPARTMENT

# THE CELL GROUPS OF COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH

**” And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching”**

*Hebrew 10:24-25.*

The fellowship of Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur roots at the “Small Group Fellowship” better known as “The Cell Groups” which spreads out from the extreme end of Dimapur District starting from Indisen Village, and extend beyond 4th mile upto Chumukedima District. There are seven Cell Groups presently with a designated leader and they function autonomously as per the convenient of its members. Some Cell Group fellowship weekly, some fortnightly and some once a month. Some cell groups for instance the Kashiram Cell Group headed by Mr Nukshi Imchen with a total strength of 19 members meets once a month and were able to undertake a focused study of the book of Philippians in the year 2025. They were privileged to have Rev. Wati Longkumer lead the study in a very systematic and enriching manner. Similarly, the Duncan Cell Group headed by Mrs Kowe meets every Friday and had Bible study on the Gospel of John. The cell group 4th mile and beyond meets once a month and did bible study on the book of James and the Notun Bosti Cell Group and Naharbari Cell Group on the book of Joshua and the Nepali Basti Cell Group on the book of Acts.

To love our Lord deeper and wholeheartedly, we ought to know him better and to know him better, we have to study His word deeper and that has been one of the main aim of conducting Bible study in the Cell Group fellowship. Through these Bible study sessions the members have been taught and better equipped to do Personal Bible Study so that more of us will be able to lead the Group Bible Studies in the future and it has also helped a lot in one’s personal spiritual growth.

Apart from the Bible studies, these Cell Groups are also involved in an array of activities like singing Hymns and worship songs, praying for each other, evangelism, outings and retreats, potluck fellowship, combined cell group fellowships and pre-christmas celebrations. Pastor Yabang Longkumer is also very passionate about the Cell Groups and visit the various group occasionally, fellowshiping with them, encouraging the groups and mentoring them and has been a great blessing.

These Cell Groups has truly brought its members closer and covenant church as a whole in the bigger picture. The members have grown in their personal relationships, knowing each other better, gained deeper understanding of one another’s professions, and experienced a strong sense of belonging, empathy, and bonding. With cheerful hearts and generosity, members lovingly shared meals, strengthening the fellowship even more.

As the New Year approaches, with the blessing of God, we plan to continue with the Cell Group and encourage the church members and all those who are a part of CBCD and fellowship with us to join the cell group if you have not been a part of it yet. You can contact any leaders of the Cell Group, our pastors or the church office and we will guide you to enroll in one of the cell group.

Let us continue to pray for the Cell Groups for the coming year that there will be more participation and growth in each cell group and above all to have the desire and to find joy in studying the Word of God.



**DC COURT-2 CELL GROUP BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP**



**DC COURT-2 CELL GROUP PRE CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP**



**COMBINED CELL GROUP FELLOWSHIP**



**4TH MILE AND BEYOND CELL GROUP**



**4TH MILE AND BEYOND CELL GROUP BIBLE STUDY**



**NAHARBARI CELL GROUP**



**KASHIRAM CELL GROUP**



**MIDLAND-NEPALI BASTI CELL GROUP**



**CAMP SPEAKER**  
1. Mr. Tejdor Tiewsoh

**BIBLE TEACHER:**  
Dr. Gayreen Lyngdoh

**RESOURCE PERSONS**  
1. Pastor Yabang Longkumer  
2. Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezang  
3. Mrs. Ketumo Imchan  
4. Mrs. Watlia Amit  
5. Mr. Neipekreizo Kesiezie

**CAMP DIRECTOR**  
Mr. Lumstabi

**Camping Gear**  
1. Bible  
2. Bedsheet, Pillow Cover, Light Blanket  
3. Toiletries  
4. Registration ₹ 250

**COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAJUIJ**  
**Youth CAMP 2025**  
VENUE: UNIVERSAL PRAYER CENTRE, KARBI ANGLONG  
27TH SEPTEMBER - 1ST OCTOBER

**THEME**  
**THE NARROW PATH**  
MATTHEW 7:13-14

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Group: \_\_\_\_\_



# YOUTH CAMP 2025



# YOUTH PICNIC AT OTS





## **YOUTH FUTSAL FELLOWSHIP**



*A one day seminar on the theme  
" For Such a Time as This " Esther 4:14*



# MOVIE

*Fellowship*



*Monthly fellowship with awareness talk on "Breast Cancer"*



*Fellowship with PWDs (Persons with Disabilities)*



*Social work with DBWU and Team Better Dimapur*



# ADVENT

*Christmas*

**Attending DBWU combined Advent Christmas at Lotha Baptist Church, Dimapur**



# HOME

*Visitation*



Teachers and volunteers with VBS  
Speaker Mr. Shikaku Shohe, CE Coordinator, NBCC

Teachers prepping up for Star Bazaar

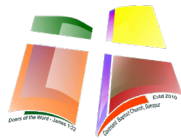


# Crossover TEAM









## CONTACT US



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